

FARM AND HOME.

Sugar-Cured Hams.

The Ohio Farmer says: To one hundred pounds of ham use nine pounds of rock salt, two ounces of saltpetre, two pounds of white sugar, one quart of less yucca, four ounces of saleratus and one ounce of allspice.

The materials are boiled and skimmed in ten or twelve gallons of water, and the brine put on cold, adding water if necessary to cover the meat. Let them lie three weeks, then take them out and dry twenty-four hours, put them in again three weeks, then take them out, dry and smoke.

We have tried it, and we have never had any recipe to equal it. It sweetens and tenders the meat and makes it fully equal to young chicken. We put up our hams early last fall, and they are just as sweet and delicious now as they were when first taken out of the brine. A few days' smoking is sufficient—too much smoking toughens the meat. After smoking, suck your hams and hang in a dry and cool place, and no flies or insects will disturb them.

Short-Horn Breeding and Feeding.

The short-horn breeders of Ohio, like those of Kentucky and Illinois, are taking fresh courage and a new departure from the growing demands in Great Britain for American beef.

Short-horns, well bred and fed all the bill exactly, and at an early age, especially in the valleys of the Scioto and Muskingum, distinguished for their corn and bluetongue, fine stock and enterprising farmers. The valleys of the Cumberland and Tennessee, at least, equal the climate for stock raising. But to produce steers that will weigh 1,500 pounds when 30 months old, implies excellent feeding and judicious management every day.

At six cents a pound such a steer brings the farmer ninety dollars, or three dollars a month for each month he has been on the farm and in the world. It is extra breeding and feeding that win the highest prizes in all cattle markets. This principle applies to hogs, sheep and all other farm stock.

Good shelter is as necessary as good feeding and breeding, and now is the time to repair sheds and stables for winter use, if any repair is needed. There is money in fine stock, and in that cultivated common sense, which steadily improves all that has either animal or vegetable life on the farm. Unwise, careless husbandry injures it, even to the universal, however good it may be, but it is never so much as it is in the hands of a man who does his best to improve their descendants by his skill in breeding and keeping. True progress in agriculture lies in the principle of evolution—evolving something higher and better by the natural power of organic growth.

Only individuals grow, but all varieties, species, genera and orders of being. Short-horns are evidence of living growth—an evidence of vital principle of universal application in farming.

Short-Horn Breeding and Feeding.

The short-horn breeders of Ohio, like those of Kentucky and Illinois, are taking fresh courage and a new departure from the growing demands of Great Britain for American beef of the first quality. Short-horns well bred and fed all the bill exactly, and at an early age, especially in the valleys of the Scioto and Muskingum, distinguished for their corn and bluetongue, fine stock and enterprising farmers. The valleys of the Cumberland and Tennessee, at least, equal the climate for stock raising. But to produce steers that weigh 1,500 pounds when 30 months old, implies excellent feeding and judicious management every day.

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The Points of Good Horses.

It is not easy to describe the perfect high-bred saddle-horse, so that he will be recognized at sight by the uninitiated, and the initiated will be able to judge of his quality. His character is such that he is sketched: He should have, first of all, large, sound, open-jointed legs, with the frog well-defined, the pasterns neither too high nor too low, nor so steep as to give an unyielding spring to the foot, and a length and sloping backward a little more than the frog-line of the foot; the knee between the pastern joints and the knee and hocks cannot be too short, and the back tendons should be large and full as to give them the appearance of width and fineness. The knees cannot be too large and full, nor can the hocks be too large and bony. The forearm, from the knee to the point of the shoulder and the hind leg from the hock to the stifle joint, should be very long and muscular, and quite free from fat or flabbiness. The shoulder must be very sloping—the more so the better—and overlaid with tense and prominent muscles. The hips and thighs should be well-worked with muscle, and if there is to be a feisty constitution at any point let it be here.

Owing to the slope of the shoulders and the height of the withers, and to the prominence of the muscles over the hips, the back should have the appearance of extreme shortness, with a slight, but only slight downward curve. A hardy road to carry a saddle in the form which the horseman expresses his highest prize. This is the preferable form of back, but very many thoroughbreds are deficient in this respect. Largely, as a matter of beauty, the spine should run back nearly level from the hips, and the tail should be carried high. A back that is in the non-fertile character of eggs laid by these fowls of Eden. Perhaps the neatest specimen is an indication of the first symptoms, or indications, we

and furnished with a large loose hanging windpipe, well-defined even when the horse is at rest.

The ears must be quick, small at their setting on, and thin; there is no objection to their having a good length; the head may be, but is not necessarily, small, but it should be well-shaped, and it must be as bony and as free as possible from flesh; it should be wide and ample between the jaws as to give ample space for the windpipe; the nostrils must be capable of great distension to allow free breathing during exertion; the skin should be soft, the coat fine and silky, and the hair of the mane and tail, although it may be somewhat wavy, should be free from anything like curliness and rather scanty than superabundant.

After severe exertion, full veins should show all over the whole body. The distension of these veins, which are generally invisible in the cold-blooded horse, gives the thoroughbred one of his greatest advantages by affording relief to the pulsation during the strong action of the heart. The horse above described is quite sure to have the deep chest and heart-place which are so important to strenuous exertion, but many of the best thoroughbreds are deficient in this respect, being narrow-chested horses, giving the barrel to the roundest accommodation of the lungs and abdominal viscera.

A sound horse having these qualities and whose sides, back of the girth, present beyond the line of the shoulders and hindquarters, is a reliable horse, and an arduous work—worth a horse for a horse.

Decendant of Foreign Bull Stock.

It is a fact that intelligent observant fanciers have not lost sight of, in the past two or three years, and which has been noted during the present season more emphatically than ever, that the foreign or imported blood, put into the hands of the United States—more especially among the Asiatic varieties—has largely deteriorated, of late, in its breeding or reproducing qualities in many yards, including, in some instances, the stock of some of our most noted breeders.

This decadence has not been anticipated by many who understand and appreciate the common course of nature and the laws of procreation. Any species or strains of live stock will, in time, degenerate perceptibly, or run out altogether, by constant breeding into the result is a certain as any event in life. No breed of stock, however good, unless, however, good it may be, but it is never so much as it is in the hands of a man who does his best to improve their descendants by his skill in breeding and keeping. True progress in agriculture lies in the principle of evolution—evolving something higher and better by the natural power of organic growth.

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shall have, that the stock we have bred from so long without introducing genuine fresh original blood among it, is being run out.—Poultry World.

THEIR ANTECEDENTS.

Miss Dabney.

Miss Dabney's Antecedents.

The greater portion of the new members from the south were in the confederate army. Representative Charles M. Shelby, of Alabama, is the only architect of his own fortune to get elected to Congress.

Garland, who succeeds Powell Clayton from Arkansas made the test case, as a lawyer in the supreme court of the United States, and gained it.

Senator Sargent, of California, used to be a printer at Newburyport, Mass. He always had a kindly side for printers. Senator Booth studied law in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Representative Page, of California, once owned a cat of many colors.

Senator Chaffee, of Colorado, is a lawyer.

Senator Teller, of Colorado, never held an office until elected to the United States Senate.

Senator Barman, of Connecticut, is largely engaged in the manufacture of iron and steel.

Representative Loring, of Massachusetts, was once a Maine hotel surgeon.

Representative Williams, of Michigan, was an oiler before the war.

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RELIGIOUS READING.

Do the Poor Have the Gospel Preached?

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